United States Environmental Protection Agency **New England Office** One Congress St., Suite 1100, Boston, MA 02114-2023



Memorandum

Date: September 6, 2001

Subject: AT&T (Fmr), North Andover MA

MAD982547317

From: Nancy Smith

Site Assessment Manager

To: File

Based upon conversations with Mr. Harish Panchal of the MA DEP Boston office, a preliminary listing of CERCLIS sites for which the state recommends that a "State Lead" code be assigned (submitted to EPA on 7-1-00), and my review and concurrence with the state recommendations, I have entered "Other Cleanup Activity - State Lead" actions into CERCLIS for a number of Massachusetts sites. It is understood that these are preliminary site determinations intended to facilitate the assignment of one agency as the lead in overseeing hazardous waste compliance issues. The lead agency is subject to change as new information becomes available, site conditions change, or other factors indicate that the lead agency decision should be reconsidered.

The MA DEP has reconfirmed in a letter to EPA that this site should remain a "State Lead" site (letter from Harish Panchal dated August 29, 2001). Upon review, I concur with the state's recommendation.

EPA and the MA DEP are continuing to review the hundreds of MA sites in CERCLIS to verify their current status, and to make "final" decisions regarding which agency should take the lead in overseeing environmental compliance. Sites assigned an "Other Cleanup Activity - State Lead" action start date (and assigned a non-NPL status of Other Cleanup Activity - State Lead) are understood to be in compliance with state program requirements, or under active review by the state. No further Superfund site assessment program actions are anticipated at sites which have been assigned a "state lead" qualifier, pending notification from the state that all remedial actions are complete (at which time EPA will consider whether the site should be archived), or that the lead decision should be changed and further federal involvement is needed.

EPA and the state will confer periodically to verify that a "state lead" qualifier continues to be appropriate for each of these sites.